# **Getting set for success**

## 'A New Zealand perspective'

Martin Toomey, Manager High Performance Sport and Recreation New Zealand (SPARC)



#### Why conduct a review?

- NZ Performances on the 'world stage' were erratic
  - Cricket, rugby, netball
  - Olympic games
  - Commonwealth games
- Limited resource availability
- Disjointed high performance system
- No high performance culture
- Poor planning and execution of plans



## The starting point ...

- We needed a coherent strategy with a 'uniting goal'
- We needed to focus our resources &
- We needed to play to our strengths
- We needed significant change not just small steps
- We needed a 'nationally driven' system
- We needed a performance focussed system



#### **High Performance review process**

- Stage 1: Independent progress report (2005)
- ◆ Stage 2: Domestic consultation (2005 06)
- Stage 3: International benchmarking exercise (2005)
  - Australia
  - China, Japan, Korea, Singapore
  - England, France, Germany, Italy, Netherlands, Norway
  - USA
- Stage 4: International expert panel (2005 06)
  - CEO scenario
  - Strategy critique



#### **Lessons from Australia**

- Insatiable appetite for success
  - Self belief is critical
- Only do it if it makes a difference
  - Maximise your resources
- Intervention protects your investment
  - Joint management committees
- Recruit and retain 'world class' talent





#### **Lessons from Asia**

- Training culture / work ethic
  - Mental toughness
  - Personal sacrifice
  - Perfect practice



- Focus on full-time athletes and coaches
  - Sport is a recognised career
  - Industry / company support for sport
- Impact of quality coaches on young athletes
  - Sport schools



#### **Lessons from Europe**

- Dual career management
  - Sport & life after sport
  - INSEP (life project)
- Plan big (UK Sport)
  - Know the cost
- National system (CONI)



- Programme integration is critical for success
  - Coaching, equipment, facilities, innovation, planning



#### Lessons from Europe (cont)

- Maximise available resources to get results
  - Netherlands, Norway (small, smart & nimble)
  - Dare to be different
  - Knowledge transfer (give to get)







#### **Lessons from America**

- Strong desire to focus resources
  - USOC obliged to support all sports



- Establish facilities in appropriate locations
- Manage sport science / sport medicine influence
  - SS/SM is only one of many tools
- Seek innovation / inspiration from anyone
  - Military, industry, other sports etc.



### **Seven Strategic Initiatives**

Targeted investment
Athlete development
Coach development
Capability development
Knowledge management
Effective delivery system
World class facilities



## **1. Targeted Investment**

- 70% support 9 targeted sports (depth over breadth)
- 5% support world class athletes (non-targeted sports)
- 25% support project based (contestable)
- Criteria
  - Importance to New Zealand
  - Recent performance history
  - Likelihood of winning on the world stage
  - Depth of talent and medal availability
  - Impact of HP programme on world class athletes





## 3. Coach Development

- NZ Coaching strategy
  - Time, recognition and quality
- Key initiatives:
  - Recruit, induct and retain world class coaches
  - National coach succession plans
  - Individualised coach support programme
  - Accelerated development programme (targeted coaches)
- NZ Coach approach (Sir John Whitmore)
  - Inner game methodology (self awareness)



## 4. Capability Development

- Grow the capability of key personnel
  - Competency mapping
  - Individualised development
- Improved links to tertiary institutions
  - Train the trainers (theory versus practice)
- Seminars, workshops, intensive training courses
  - On the job learning (70%)
  - Group learning opportunities (20%)
  - Textbook learning (10%)



## 5. Knowledge Management

- Central repository of information
  - Coordinated dissemination of information
  - Database to capture service records, results etc.
  - Tools and templates
  - Research, technology and innovation
- International relationships
  - Internships and secondments
  - Knowledge sharing
  - Joint-venture projects



## 6. Effective Delivery System

- Streamlined delivery system
  - Reduction from three centres to two
  - Concentration around five major cities
  - Clusters of sports training at multi-sport hubs
  - Key providers full-time within HP system
  - Centres of excellence developed
- European training base
  - Central location (access to airports)
  - World class training facilities
  - Accommodation



### 7. World Class Facilities

- HP facility review
  - Need priority access to existing facilities
  - Identify facility gaps across New Zealand
  - Develop a training facility blueprint
  - Use major events to get facilities developed
- Work with other countries to share resources
  - Northern versus Southern hemisphere



#### **The Challenge Ahead**

Resource required to implement strategy

- \$NZ relative to the Pound, Euro and \$US
- Lack of 'world class' people within the system
  - Limited experience winning on the 'world stage'
- Commitment to a nationally driven system
- Fundamental movement skills
  - Talented coaches at all stages of the pathway
- Politicians wanting success today



#### **Measures of Success**

- Results in events that <u>matter</u> to New Zealand
  - World Champions in cricket, netball, rugby by 2011
  - 10 or more medals at 2012 Olympics
- Increased depth of athlete and coaching talent
- Improved HP programme quality (people and systems)
- Performance focussed support services
- Significantly increased resource within system



## Thank you





## New Zealand – Olympic results



SPARC ihi AOTEAROA

# **Targeted Investment**

Targeted Sports	World Class athletes	Contestable
(70% Support)	(5% Support)	(25% Support)
Athletics, Bike, Cricket, Netball, Rowing, Rugby, Sailing, Swimming, Triathlon	World class individuals in Olympic (Top 16) and non-Olympic Global <sup>1</sup> (Top 8) sports <sup>1</sup> <u>IOC definition</u> Men = 4 continents, 75 countries Women = 3 continents, 40 countries Winter = 3 continents, 25 countries	Badminton, Basketball, Bowls, Canoeing, Equestrian, Football, Golf, Hockey, Paralympics, Rugby League, Shooting, Softball, Squash, Surf Lifesaving, Skate Sports, Table Tennis, Tennis, Waterpolo, Winter Sports etc.

